were female, 42% cases occurred in spring, 29% in autumn, 27% in summer, but in winter this percentage reduced to only 2%. 96% of patients had fever, 94% had watery diarrhea, 6% had dysentery, 35% cases had stool exam with many WBC and RBC and stool culture positive for shigellosis, 75% cases were under 3 years, pattern of seizure was generalized tonic- clonic in 98% patients with gastroenteritis, two or more seizure occurred in 11.5%, 88.5% cases had one episode seizure, 86% had gastroenteritis with seizure before admission, 4% had seizure after admission, 10% had seizure before and after admission, 88.5% had convulsion after gastroenteritis, but 11.5% cases before it.

Conclusion: according to this study, type of convulsion in children less than 3 years with gastroenteritis and even shigella - related seizure is one episode of generalized tonic-clonic. It usually occurs during first day after beginning gastroenteritis. Similar to the simple febrile seizure, convulsion with gastroenteritis is benign and has an excellent outcome.

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15.019

Characteristics of Persistent Diarrhea in Iranian Children Admitted to a Pediatric Hospital in Tehran 2006—07

N. Arjmand Kermani[1,*], F. Jafari[1], E. Nazemalhoseini Mojarad[1], N. Hosein Khan[1], F. Mola[2], M.R. Zali[1]

[1] *Research Center for Gastroenterology and Liver Diseases (RCGLD), Shahid Beheshti University.M.C, Tehran, Iran (Islamic Republic of)*
[2] *Mofid pediatric Hospital, Shahid Beheshti University.M.C, Tehran, Iran (Islamic Republic of)*

Background: As recent improvements in rehydration therapy has decreased the overall mortality rate of diarrheal diseases, persistent diarrhea (a diarrhea episode lasting at least 14 days with a presumptive infectious etiology) has been identified as a major health problem in developing countries.

Method: To evaluate some epidemiological and clinical characteristics and microbial etiology of persistent diarrhea (PD), this study was conducted from June 2006 to June 2007 in a pediatric hospital in Tehran. Children aged less than 12 years admitted for acute diarrhea, were followed prospectively until resolution of diarrhea symptom. Patient demographics, characteristics of diarrheal diseases, diet and drug history were compared between acute and persistent group. Standard parasitological methods and PCR were used for detection of protozoa and bacterial entheropathogens in stool specimens. Data were analyzed using Chi square or Fisher's exact test.

Results: PD developed in 19.6% of the total 424 diarrhea episodes. Male to female ratio was similar in PD and acute diarrhea (AD) group. The mean age in PD and AD cases was 15.3 and 29.4 months, respectively ($P < 0.001$). Proportion of related symptoms and dysentery was not different between the two groups. History of dietary change prior to admission (20.5% vs. 8.4% $P = 0.014$), Antibiotic (94% vs. 83% $P = 0.013$) and anticholinergic drugs (12% vs. 5.3% $P = 0.026$) administration in acute phase was significantly higher in PD than between AD and PD cases was observed only for *Salmonella* (0% in AD vs. 2.4% in PD, $P = 0.038$). The frequency of malnutrition was similar in two groups. No deaths occurred due to diarrhea during this study.

Conclusion: PD seems to be a benign disease in this population. Young age, Antibiotic and anticholinergic drugs, diet change and *Salmonella* are some factors associated to PD.

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15.020

Neonatal Group B Streptococcal Infection: A 6-Year Experience in HUSM, Malaysia

H. Siti Asma*, I. Nabilah, M. Zeehaida, H. Habsah, A.R. Zaidah

Department of Medical Microbiology and Parasitology, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Kubang Kerian, Malaysia

Background: Group B streptococcus (GBS) is a leading cause of neonatal bacterial infections. It causes severe sepsis which rapidly progresses despite of modern supportive therapy. In our setting, GBS screening in pregnant mother was not routinely done and antimicrobial prophylaxis was given to only selected cases.

Objectives: This retrospective study was designed to determine the trend of GBS infection during the past 6 years at the Hospital Universiti Sains Malaysia, as well as to assess the risk factors, clinical features and patient outcomes.

Methods: Medical records of infants with neonatal GBS infection identified by positive results of blood cultures and sterile body fluid in our hospital from January 2001 through December 2006 were reviewed for demographic and clinical data.

Results: There were 58 infants with neonatal GBS infection during the past 6 year in our hospital. Only 43 records were traceable. In 2001, there were only 5 cases of GBS infection, however the cases increased to 15 in the subsequent years and the number maintained constantly for the last 3 years in 2004 to 2006 (14 cases per year). Thirty two infants had early onset infections and 11 had late-onset infections. Sepsis was the most common clinical presentation in both early (21, 65.6%) and late onset group (9, 81.8%). Other clinical manifestations were pneumonia, Respiratory Distress Syndrome (RDS), meningitis and septic arthritis. The mortality rate was 15.6% in early onset group while no mortality was found in late-onset group. The organism was 100% sensitive to ampicillin and penicillin G. Sensitivity to erythromycin was within 86 to100%.

Conclusion: GBS infection seemed to have increased during the past 6 years in our hospital. Therefore, screening pregnant mothers during their pregnancy is necessary and the necessity of intrapartum prophylaxis should be emphasized.

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